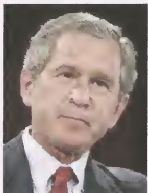


Review

2004: Year of Fear

By CHERYL DEVAL

Let other publications choose a man of the year. I've determined that 2004 didn't hinge as much on a personality or a single event as on an emotion. Call it the year of fear.



Trepidation drove the polling – and subsequently, the message – behind the seemingly endless U.S. presidential campaign. Democrats reluctantly clustered around the candidate party leaders proclaimed most electable, misinterpreting the passion of others with more strongly held views on the war in Iraq or the widening gap between rich and poor as too scary for prime time.

Jitters over another potential terror attack – fueled by Vice President Dick Cheney's campaign assertion that a vote for Sen. John Kerry would hasten another al-Qaida strike – helped seal the election for incumbent George W. Bush. Neither the sitting VP nor his Democratic challenger could offer an adequate response to the truly frightening phenomenon of rising HIV infection rates among African-American women. Instead, other worries – that legal same-sex marriages would somehow undermine the American family, that godless Hollywood humanism would overwhelm the land, that desperate suburban housewives would drop their towels in NFL locker rooms [whoops, that happened *after* the election] – played strong supporting roles in the electoral result.

Heebie-jeebies – about the possible reinstatement of a universal military draft, the erosion of civil liberties, the ascendancy of market values over government regulation of healthcare, Social Security, industry and the environment – also motivated Democrats and other Bush administration opponents. How else, if not an equal and opposite reaction to right-wing phobias, would one explain the hip-hop inflected “Vote or Die” youth outreach campaign?

Yet somehow, the casualty count of American troops, not to mention of vulnerable civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan, never gained the same campaign-issue traction as fear of a flu vaccine shortage.

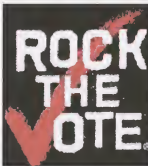
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Knight Fellowships

At Stanford University 2005-2006.
Application deadline is Feb. 1. Visit
Web site <http://knight.stanford.edu>

Inside:

Commentary, Diversity
Aired in the Bloggersphere,
page 3





the people, already disinclined to trust the press, were increasingly seeking out media that conformed to our preconceptions. Newspaper circulation spiraled downward and reporting staffs from Hartford to Seattle braced for layoffs.

Suspicion flavored other observations of American culture before and after the election. Of one Democratic congressman, conservative James Dobson of Focus on the Family proclaimed, "he may not hate God, but he hates God's people." There wasn't much overlap, was there, between the audiences for "The Passion of the Christ" and "Fahrenheit 9/11" – respectively, the highest-grossing Aramaic-language and documentary films ever.



In the aftermath of a very close election, President Bush hastily declared a values-based mandate and set about appointing a Cabinet that looks like America and sounds like an echo chamber. The president nominated National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to replace the less-than-fully-compliant Colin Powell as Secretary of State.

Meanwhile, out in the world, fear prompted countless Sudanese refugees to flee janjaweed bandits who killed men and raped women and girls as a matter of strategy. A far lesser worry – that history may judge onlooker nations as harshly as it will about their silence on the Rwandan genocide – led to late humanitarian efforts and pronouncements against the violence. The bicentennial of Haiti's independence saw the hemisphere's oldest black nation slide further into despondency thanks to a harsh hurricane season and ongoing political violence.



U.S.-led coalition forces, dreading *the other*, terrorized prisoners under their guard at Abu Ghraib in Iraq and Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. The shocking use of torture and humiliation yielded little if any usable intelligence for the war on – that's right – terror.

The sporting world offered little respite from the atmosphere of fear. A much-publicized brawl between Indiana Pacers and Detroit Pistons players and fans resulted in nine suspensions from NBA play and a dozen criminal indictments. [The sport better known for fisticuffs, hockey, was likely not to hit professional ice at all this season amid disputes over player salary caps.]

Grand jury proceedings reported in San Francisco yielded ominous hints that the use of performance-enhancing drugs is the rule, rather than the exception, in baseball and track-and-field. The summer Olympic Games in Athens cost an unprecedented \$12 billion to stage – including \$1.6 billion for security [an average of \$142,857 per competing athlete].



At the turn of this year, optimism is almost as hard to track down as peace. But a glimmer of both shines through in the example of Wangari Maathai, the first black African woman Nobel laureate and the first environmental activist to win the Peace Prize. In her Oslo address to the world, the Kenyan founder of Operation Greenbelt called for sustainable development and civil society as prerequisites to peace.

CONTINUED on next page

"In the course of history," she said, "there comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness, to reach a higher moral ground. A time when we have to shed our fear and give hope to each other. That time is now."

The writer, a 1982 Columbia J-school graduate, is program manager for the Center for the Study of Journalism and Democracy at the USC Annenberg School for Communication.



Wayne Dawkins Commentary

Racial diversity aired in the bloggersphere

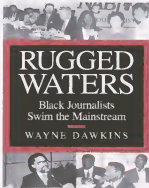
"Bloggers," web log media critics, nitpicked Dan Rather's flawed story about President Bush's National Guard service record and drew blood. Brian Williams of NBC was bitten too, this time by a black blogger last month. Bloggers, to the consternation of big media, get results – explanations, apologies and promises by big media to do better work.

That was the case in the Williams episode.

I know about this first-hand. The NABJ national office called me Dec. 2 to see if I would answer questions from a blogger named Robert Redding. He spotted a comment Williams made in the United Airlines in-flight magazine "Hemispheres." Williams, 45, successor to longtime anchor Tom Brokaw, 64, was asked if racial diversity in the media was a big issue. Williams said, "We have bigger problems. There are no black members of the U.S. Senate. We should keep some perspective on this. Nevertheless, I am constantly interested to hear of examples in our coverage where viewers think we got it wrong in one way or another because of a skewed viewpoint."

Malice? No. Woefully misinformed, yes.

As author of "Rugged Waters: Black Journalists Swim the Mainstream," [2003] which chronicled media diversity struggles through the 1990s and at the start of this century, I disagreed: "We are talking about a medium that is most able to reflect the population," I told ReddingNewsReview.com. "If anything, we should be getting better at what we are doing. We should not be backsliding."



This was not an off-the-cuff reply. Redding's web log pointed out this irony: Williams' dismissal of media diversity came after a 2003 survey by the Radio and TV News Directors Association reported that women and minority staffing in local radio and television newsrooms has declined in the last two years. And by the way, in 2001, the Federal Communications Commission relaxed racial hiring quotas for broadcast news and public affairs. A few major news companies immediately went on record and said their commitment to diversity would not wane. Yet RTNDA reported slippage in minority numbers. Hmmm.

My closing comment to Redding was "I don't take Williams' comments with any malice; I just think he is woefully misinformed."

Redding's report attracted media attention. On Dec. 8 NABJ issued a statement that it was "disappointed and dismayed" by comments attributed to Williams. Williams' reply statement insisted that he valued workplace equality. A few days later, NBC News President Neal Shapiro met with leaders of NABJ in New York.

Williams, reported the New York Daily News on Dec. 11, said he was pleased Shapiro has attended the meeting. He said "It is clear that my response to a question ... has been misconstrued. I believe that the lack of diversity is a serious challenge not only in newsrooms across America, but across the upper echelons of our society as well. In no way have I ever diminished the problem that exists in our newsrooms."

Shapiro said "I am passionate about the need for diversity in our nation's newsrooms and particularly here at the network level. I continue to be committed to having more black journalists and other journalists of color at the highest levels in our newsrooms."

After the 2-hour closed-door meeting, NABJ President Herb Lowe said "We are confident that from Neal Shapiro to Brian Williams on down that having a diverse newsroom is a priority at NBC." Read the complete Lowe and Shapiro statements at nabj.org.

At a Nov. 16 Columbia Journalism School fall meeting forum about bloggers and their role in the presidential election, Dean Nicholas Lemann called blogs "the cold type of the sixties. When barriers are lowered, the establishment disapproves."

The panel of bloggers from wonkette.com, eschaton.com and opinionjournal.com [Wall Street Journal] plus a political reporter from the Philadelphia Inquirer, struck me as smarmy for the most part and even unsure of their power to embarrass big media when journalists slipped up in print or on the air.

I was impressed with Redding's earnestness. He did not sound like he was in a gleeful "gotcha" mode when he asked me to reply to Williams' comments. Redding said he was just trying to find people who were not afraid to speak up. Redding applied old-school journalism with a new medium, the blog.



People

Suzanne Malveaux, '91, CNN White House correspondent, received the "Communicator of the Year" award from the Metro New York Chapter of the National Black MBA Association.

Malveaux shared the stage with former President Bill Clinton, who also was an honoree at the Dec. 2 event, which was the 15th annual scholarship and awards program for the 550-member chapter.

Black Alumni Network

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Network Newsletter / Our 25th year/February 2005/ Vol. 25, No. 2

Black Alumni Network J-scholarship to be awarded at Columbia this fall

\$5K award anticipated; \$34K gift a key source; time for alumni gifts

There's good and bad news about our effort to endow a scholarship at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in the name of the Black Alumni Network.

Bad news first: When we started our fund raising drive in the late 1990s, we needed to raise a minimum \$25,000 to endow a scholarship. Now that minimum is \$50,000 in order to reap any meaningful awards. Jeff Richard of the J-school development office explained that a \$50,000 endowment can produce \$2,200 in financial aid.

Now here is the good news: In January BAN was informed that \$34,000 is now available to dispense scholarship awards to future students.

This gift serves an incentive to kick-start the BAN endowment drive.

A'Lelia Bundles, '76, and Wayne Dawkins, '80, participated in a Jan. 7 conference call with Richard and Amanda Wilson of the GSJ alumni office. Richard explained that the \$34,000 gift came from a source interested in promoting diversity in journalism. Richard said the J-school administration recognized that the **Black Alumni Network** has promoted such work for many years. Tentatively, an initial gift of \$5,000 in tuition assistance was proposed by the development office for an incoming 2005-2006 student. Additional awards are to be spread out over about five to seven years.

A \$5,000 award will assist a student who will face \$38,000 tuition and a total package [tuition, room and board] of \$55,000 for a year of study at Columbia GSJ.

Want perspective? A quarter century ago, tuition at Columbia was \$5,800.

Now here's our challenge to GSJ black alumni: While the J-school uses our name to award scholarships, we have about five years to raise \$100,000 to endow our scholarship.

But wait, didn't we say the minimum endowment was \$50,000? Yes, but since \$50,000 generates \$2,200 in aid, let's aim higher and establish a fund that kicks out \$5,000 annually in scholarship aid.

To learn more about making a gift, contact Jeff Richard, jhr2105@columbia.edu, or write to him in care of the development office at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York, NY 10027.

Alumni Association

Executive committee meets in New York on Feb. 2. Members to choose finalists for distinguished alumni awards.

Inside:

Appreciation: Lonnie Stephens, J-'78, Philadelphia cameraman

Page 2

Lonnie Stephens, J-78, cameraman, dead at 52

By DOROTHY DAVIS, J-'77

Lonnie Stephens, 52, member of the Columbia J-School class of '78 and award-winning WCAU-TV cameraman in Philadelphia, died Dec. 20 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Multiple myeloma was the reported cause of death.

An appreciation



Adventurous and innovative by nature, Stephens was often compared to musician Jimi Hendrix in his early years. Stephens started his broadcasting career as an audio engineer as a student in 1971 at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. He went on to WBUR in Boston, where he covered cutting edge political and cultural activities on Boston University's campus and throughout the city during its fight over the desegregation of schools in the mid-1970s. He would interlace news clips and interviews into his weekly world music show on WBUR. One of these shows was dedicated to the Rastafarians of Jamaica, a nod to his Jamaican family heritage.

I first met Stephens when he was a deejay at WBUR. He had the natural voice of a broadcaster and an incredible knack at being able to mix a wide variety of music very smoothly. In fact, he introduced me to Brazil through music, food and capoeira.

In early 1976, Stephens moved from Boston to Washington, D.C. where he worked as an audio engineer at NBC-TV. In August of that year, he moved to New York City where he completed — at my insistence — his Bachelors degree from Antioch College after transferring credits from the New School for Social Research. He was then accepted into the Class of 1978 at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Knowing his interest in the Rastafarians, Stephen's childhood friend, Michael Spencer, first informed him about the activities of MOVE in Philadelphia and introduced him to key members. After visiting them on several occasions, Stephens decided to do his Master's thesis on MOVE. While Phyllis Garland was his Reporting & Writing teacher, Penn Kimball was his Master's adviser.

MOVE was very topical at the time because the radical group was constantly in the news and like a boil that was about to burst. At that time, MOVE members were living in West Philadelphia and then-Mayor Frank Rizzo mobilized the Philadelphia Police Department against them. That move reminded many black Philadelphians of earlier incidents between the hostile Philadelphia police force and the Black Panthers.

After graduation from Columbia in 1978, I persuaded Stephens to return to Philadelphia to renovate his parents' two homes after having not lived there since graduating from West Philadelphia High School in 1970. In 1979, he became an audio engineer at WCAU-TV. He informally and periodically kept in touch with various persons from MOVE. In fact, one of the MOVE members ultimately bought his parent's house after settlement was made in court as a result of the second uprising of MOVE in the 1980s involving former Mayor W. Wilson Goode.

While at WCAU-TV, Stephens noticed that there were very few black cameramen in the city: including Artis Hall of WCAU and Mike Boyer at KYW-TV. Along with a few other black audiomen, Stephens decided he wanted to become one. He studied the craft on his own time by getting others to tutor him.

Given Stephens' previous practical and academic training as a journalist, he was able to visually represent stories from a multicultural, multi-dimensional and informed perspective, often suggesting to the WCAU anchors that they re-frame their written version to better compliment the visual product he had produced in order for it to be a more effective piece.

Unity 2004 revenues and NABJ's slice of the pie

Net income from the Unity 2004 Journalists of Color convention last August was \$1.4 million, NABJ Treasurer John Yearwood told the Black Alumni Network in February.

Of the four partners, NABJ received about 31 percent of the net revenues, or \$442,294, said Yearwood, and he added that the association also received 100 percent of its registration dollars, which was \$594,405.



Combined, that totals just over \$1 million for NABJ.

Total Unity attendance was 8,286, representing NABJ, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, Asian American Journalists Association and the Native American Journalists Association. NABJ representation was 3,032

attendees, or about 36 percent of the crowd.

How does this compare to Unity 1999 in Seattle? Of 6,800 attendees, about 29 percent were NABJ members. NABJ received \$691,940 in convention revenue, \$267,000 in job fair revenue based on a Unity formula and about \$50,000 in advertising revenue.

Unity 2004 executive director Anna Lopez promised updates soon. Visit www.unityjournalists.org. Also visit NABJ.org for updates about the annual convention in August and for news about spring regional conferences.

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Network Newsletter /Our 25th year/March 2005/ Volume 25, No. 3

Is there a future for network news?

Day before Dan Rather steps down after 24 years as anchor of the CBS Evening News; the Columbia University Journalism Alumni Association will host a career panel Tuesday, March 8 on the state of network news.

In addition to Rather, Tom Brokaw left the anchor chair at NBC at the end of 2004, leaving ABC's Peter Jennings the last man standing in a trinity that reigned for more than two decades. A crowded field of 24-hour cable news channels and the Internet has challenged the market share the relevance of old-school network news.

Come hear panelists Michael Wolff, Bob Garfield, Amy Entelis and Phil Scheffler. David Klatell of the J-school will moderate. The program at the J-school is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and a reception begins at 6:30. Visit www.jrn.columbia.edu.

4 winners of '05 Journalism Alumni Awards

NEW YORK – Tom Rosenstiel, J-'80, and author of "The State of the News Media 2004" annual report, is among four winners of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism 2005 Journalism Alumni Awards.

The Alumni Awards will be presented on Friday, April 15, during the Journalism School's Alumni Weekend. The event is only open to the press, and RSVP is required.

Rosenstiel had a distinguished reporting career at the Los Angeles Times and Newsweek, and now directs the Project for Excellence in Journalism, an initiative that aims to clarify and raise the standards of American journalism. He has written numerous books that explore the ethics and elements of journalism.

Continued on page 3

Slice of UNITY pie

NABJ share of summer convention revenues. Page 4.

Inside:

Appreciation: Susan E. Johnson, 55, of Connecticut. Page 2.

Susan Johnson, J-80, lawyer, 1949-2004

Susan Ethelyn Johnson, 55, a member of the Columbia University Graduate School Class of 1980, died Dec. 10, 2004 in New Haven, Conn.



Her mother Barbara Yvette Johnson said Susan Johnson's death was related to a connective tissue disease and she has been ill for some time. "She was my oldest girl and my baby girl," said the mother of three. "It was shocking to me."

Johnson was born Jan. 21, 1949 in New Haven. She attended local public schools and graduated from James Hillhouse High School in 1967. Johnson graduated from Harvard University [Radcliffe] in 1971 with a B.A. in American government. She was an assistant editor of the campus newspaper.

Johnson earned a law degree in 1974 from the University of California Berkeley School of Law [Boalt Hall]. She was an assistant editor the Black Law Journal from 1972-73.

After graduation from Columbia, Johnson worked as an attorney in Houston. She returned to Connecticut and her longtime hometown, Hamden, to raise her daughter Jan Ashleigh Johnson, 17, who this spring is a high school senior.

Johnson is survived by her daughter, mother, and brothers Larry of South Dennis, Mass. and Neal of Westampton, N.J. [Johnson photo is from 1980]

Reunion weekend in April at Columbia J-school

The Columbia University J-school class of 1980 is planning its 25th reunion for the weekend of Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17 in New York. The weekend has added significance since one classmate, Tom Rosenstiel, is receiving one of four outstanding journalism alumni awards on Friday.

So far a dozen or more of about 140 classmates nationwide and overseas have confirmed they will attend or at least if they cannot make it, they will submit bios that will be included in a class journal. Reunion organizers have also been thrilled to connect with a handful of classmates who were "lost" or missing from school records. If you're coming, contact co-coordinators Wayne Dawkins, 757-591-2371, or Renee Edelman, 212-724-7287. Reunion committee members are Robert David Addams, Betty Winston Baye, Alexis Gelber, Barbara Guiterrez, Rex Smith and Lise C. White.

On this reunion weekend, other classes ending in the years 0 or 5 will be celebrating too.

J-alumni award winners/Continued from page 1

The other winners are:

Heidi Evans, '84, of the New York Daily News. Known for her aggressive, compelling and street-wise reporting during two stints of work at the Daily News. She has been honored with two George Polk Awards, the Meyer Berger Award and the Selden Ring Award for Investigative Reporting, among other commendations.

Dennis Redmont, '63, Associated Press bureau chief in Rome since 1976. He has steered this major bureau, which also covers Greece, Turkey and other countries bordering the Mediterranean, earning accolades for its even-handed, unbiased and thorough coverage. Redmont also initiated an intern program that has trained several hundred future journalists.

Joe Saltzman, '62, former CBS producer. In the 1960s and 1970s, Saltzman won numerous Emmys, Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards and Edward R. Murrow awards. He has entered a new phase in his career, as a teacher and administrator at the University of Southern California's journalism program and has created the convergence curriculum for broadcasting, print and new media at the school.

The awards are presented annually by the school's Alumni Association for a distinguished journalism career in any medium, for an outstanding single journalistic accomplishment, for a notable contribution to journalism education, or for an achievement in related fields. The awards are highly prized because they represent recognition of excellence by professional peers.

Previous Columbia Journalism Alumni Award recipients include: Molly Ivins, '67, CNN's Myron Kandel, '53, The Washington Post's Dorothy Gilliam, '61, CBS News' Steve Kroft, '75, and the Associated Press' Lou Boccardi, '59.

To RSVP, contact Irena Choi Stern at 212-854-9938 or ics9@columbia.edu.

People

Erin Texiera, '95, is now the Associated Press' national writer for race and ethnicity, based in New York City. Her story last month about a Black History Month backlash – scholars and officials turning down appearances – caused a lot of buzz. Texiera was a reporter at Newsday. ... Congratulations to **Mira Thomas Lowe, '88**, promoted to associate editor for recruitment at Newsday, and **Tania Padgett, '95**, to an assistant city editor on the New York desk of the same newspaper. ... **Cheryl Devall, '82**, said she enjoyed moonlighting in late January when she conducted on-air interviews for NPR News with Tony Cox. "It's been fun – I've interviewed everyone from Jeffrey Sachs to Ja Rule," she said. "My boss at USC has been very gracious about lending me out a few mornings a week." ... **Keith Rushing, '90**, of the Daily Press in Newport News, Va. wrote about the Nat Turner site in rural Virginia and historic preservation and the continuing controversy about his place in history. ... **Stephanie Esters, '91**, informed us that **James McBride's, '80**, bestselling book "The Color of Water" was chosen by the Kalamazoo Public Library and other local libraries for its Community Reading Together project [McBride photo on the left].



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Network Newsletter / Our 25th year / April 2005 / Vol. 25, No. 4

Middle East: How much is it changing?

J-school panel, Wednesday, April 6, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

From a distance, it looks as if fundamental change might be underway in the Middle East. Columbia Journalism School has invited a panel of distinguished writers on the region – three of whom will be flying from there to New York for the occasion, and the fourth of whom was a Jerusalem-based correspondent for years – to discuss what is happening there.

All the panelists are experts on the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, so the current negotiations between those entities will be the first item on the agenda. But the discussion should also broaden to include such questions as whether Syria will pull out of Lebanon; whether nations like Egypt and Saudi Arabia are beginning to democratize; whether Iraq will stabilize and whether the United States will move aggressively to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons capability.

Panelists:

Khalil Shikaki, director, Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research, Ramallah.

Ilene Prusher, bureau chief, Christian Science Monitor, Jerusalem

Michael Oren, senior fellow, Shalem Center, Jerusalem; author, “Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East”

Ethan Bronner, '80, deputy foreign editor, The New York Times; former Jerusalem bureau chief, Boston Globe

Moderator: **Nicholas B. Lemann**, dean, Graduate School of Journalism

WHERE: Lecture Hall, Third Floor, Journalism Building, 116th and Broadway.

Reservations are required, as space is limited. Contact Irena Choi Stern 212-854-9938, or e-mail ics9@columbia.edu

[Details provided by the j-school alumni office]

Will you be there?

Reunion weekend at J-school
Page 2.

Inside:

Johnnie Cochran's grade school
friends. PEOPLE, page 3

Reunion weekend: Will you be there?

Class of 1980 silver anniversary; other classes celebrate too

As of April 1, 20 people from the Columbia University J-School Class of 1980 confirmed that they will be 25th anniversary class dinner on Saturday, April 16.

Many students in the 150-member class indicated that they will be coming to the reunion. We want to hear from you. In addition to metro New York, classmates are coming from West Coast, Southeast and New England. Some who are overseas asked for details in case they could make it.

So far, here are the people who have **confirmed**:

Ethan Bronner; Akili Buchanan; Wayne Dawkins; Renee Edelman; Magda Gandasegui; Alexis Gelber; Jeffrey Gottlieb; Barbara Gutierrez; Bethany Kandel; Susan Keenan; Arlene Levinson; Maria Newman; Manuel Norat; Fred Plotkin; Steven Rothman; Rex Smith; Lindy Washburn; Jon Zonderman.

Our class party will be at the home of Alexis Gelber and Mark Whitaker, 290 West End Ave., Apt. 9-C, New York, N.Y., beginning at 6 p.m. **RSVP** to Amanda Wilson at the J-school. E-mail: aw2186@columbia.edu



On Friday, April 15, classmate Tom Rosenstiel will be among four men and women receiving journalism alumni association awards at the spring meeting and reception, 6 p.m. in Columbia University Low Library.

There will be many reunion events Saturday for classes ending in the years zero or five: Continental breakfast; luncheon, and sessions "Smarter Surfing: Better Use of Your Web Time," "Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture," and "The Case Study Method in Journalism School."

There are fees for some events. Visit www.jrn.columbia.edu

People

Lawrence Aaron, '70, wrote April 1 that the children from the Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. Academy in East Orange, N.J. "were honoring not the celebrity lawyer, not the



personality, but their friend." Aaron, columnist at *The Record* of Hackensack, N.J., explained that Cochran, 67, who died March 29, had practically adopted the K-5 magnet school after agreeing to let East Orange name the 300-student school after him. Cochran and his firm, Aaron wrote, won several million-dollar settlements in New Jersey in cases of police lethal force against citizens, and for black law

enforcement officers who said they were discriminated against and harassed.

Clarence Page in his March 20 syndicated column wrote, "When media blogger Richard Prince asked female columnists-of-color why their voices have not been heard much in the current Estrich debate, **Betty [Winston] Baye, [1'80]** an African-American columnist at the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, gave him an earful. "It's usually the case that debates having to do with 'women's issues' are about white women," she said. "But let the subject be welfare, crack, prison or obesity, and count on it, the women in the spotlight are women of color, and it's been that way for a mighty long time." Betty has been a friend of mine for a couple of decades now, wrote Page, "and I still pick up new insights from her. That wouldn't happen if we columnists all thought alike." Last month, columnist and pundit Susan Estrich complained to Los Angeles Times editorial and opinion editor Michael Kinsley that there was a lack of women commentators.



Lisa Cox, '92, announced last month that she is moving home to California. "I can't believe it myself," she wrote. "But the Lord spoke to me and said the time for change is now. I resigned my position as executive producer in Birmingham [NBC-13], and I'm coming home. No, I do not have a new job, but in a strange way, I'm feeling pretty calm about it and know that something will turn. It was time to leave the South. I believe what I was supposed to learn here, I have, and there was no need to stay here anymore.

I've built my entire career and became who I am today on the opposite end of The Left Coast, and haven't lived at home since I was 18, so while the move is grand and exciting, it's extremely bittersweet, as I will miss feeling the closeness of everyone up and down I-95 who has touched my life and helped me reach so many goals. Thank you!"



Sheryl Huggins, '91, said she will be at the J-school Alumni Book Fair April 15 signing copies of the second Nia Guide for Black Women, entitled "Balancing Work & Life." More information on the book is at: www.niaonline.com/NiaEnterprises/Books/books_home/

Jobline

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale seeks a **deputy managing editor/visuals** and **creative director** to direct visual editorial content. The ideal candidate will be an experienced manager comfortable leading design, photography and graphics. This person will directly oversee the photography and graphics departments and will set the newsroom-wide standard for editorial design. The newsroom is a multi-media operation so there is an opportunity to work with the online edition as well as our broadcast partners. Candidates should submit a brief statement of their visual journalism philosophy, a resume and 8-10 examples of work that demonstrates their strengths in this

area to: Kathleen L. Pellegrino, Sun-Sentinel, 200 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, kpellegrino@sun-sentinel.com.

The newspaper also seeks:

Crime Reporter: Looking for a reporter to join the criminal justice team. Must be aggressive, competitive and adept at handling breaking news under tight deadline conditions. The job calls for versatility, the ability to juggle several tasks at once and a coolness under pressure. Fluency in Spanish is preferred. The reporter will be part of a team covering law enforcement in Broward County, and will report directly to the night city editor. Hours are 3 p.m. to midnight Monday through Friday. To apply, send a letter of interest, resume and 8-10 clips to: Kathleen L. Pellegrino, Sun-Sentinel, 200 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

Making change: Have an unwritten book? Is your life-work balance out of whack? Are you concerned about the impression you create or about your financial future? Consider redesigning your life. Inspire Higher Weekend, a two-day personal development conference, **April 29-30** in Los Angeles, will help participants have the courage and tools they need to change their lives. Denver Post editor Carla Kimbrough-Robinson will help participants craft goals they can achieve; identify the factors that kill or fulfill their dreams; and create an individualized plan to pursue their ambitions. Other speakers include Maxine McCleery-Bowden, a certified instructor in journaling; Lori Ann Robinson, a professional image consultant and four-time Emmy nominee for costume design; and Rhonda Sher, author of "The 2-Minute Networker." Bonus: Win one of three \$500 prizes for the most inspiring essay that discusses your dream and how the money would help you achieve it. Early bird registration: \$125, until

April 8 and \$179 afterwards. Cost includes workshop materials and breakfast and lunch each day.

Questions? E-mail weekends@inspirehigher.net.



The Poughkeepsie Journal has two openings for **copy editors/page designers**. One is in our Life section, where they are looking for creative young talent to do feature pages and special sections. The other is on the News Copy Desk, where the person will be a key player in night production of our paper. The Poughkeepsie Journal is one of Gannett's best small newspapers. It is located in the Hudson River Valley about an hour north of the New York City. It is a diverse and interesting city. It's a college town – Vassar and Marist College are there. 85 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. www.poughkeepsiejournal.com

The Journal Gazette, 70,000 daily and about 130,000 Sunday circulation, seeks a full-time **business reporter** with at least two years of daily newspaper experience for its Fort Wayne, Ind., newsroom. Candidates must have strong reporting and writing skills and know how to develop sources and regularly scoop the competition. Send a cover letter, a resume and five to six clips to Lisa Green, Business Editor, The Journal Gazette, 600 W. Main St., Fort Wayne, Ind. 46802. **Deadline** for applying is Monday, April 11.

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Pulitzer Prize for J-'88 graduate

Olojede recognized for reporting from central Africa

Dele Olojede, J-'88, last month received a 2005 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting. He was recognized for coverage of how Rwandans society was coping with the fallout from genocide that ravaged the central African nation a decade ago, reported Newsday, where Olojede had worked. "Rwanda: 10 Years of Pain," a four-part series, was a "fresh, haunting look at Rwanda a decade after rape and genocidal slaughter had ravaged the Tutsi tribe," according to the Pulitzer board of directors.



Ten years after the genocide in Rwanda, Olojede was haunted by his difficult decision not to go there as news of the tribal slaughter was emerging in April 1994, Newsday reported. He was Newsday's Africa correspondent and chose to continue covering the historic election campaign in South Africa that would make Nelson Mandela that nation's first black president.

Last year, Olojede, then the paper's foreign editor, set out to examine how Rwandan society was coping with the fallout from genocide, from mothers raising children born of rape to Catholic nuns questioning their faith after seeing church leaders encourage a holocaust. The series was published in Newsday May 2-5, 2004. "I couldn't make myself abandon the Mandela story ... I could never be sure I did the right thing," said Olojede, 44, in the April 5 Newsday account. "Maybe if I had gone, only 500,000 people would have died instead of 800,000. I always felt this guilt. ... I said I have to go back."

He shared the international reporting award with Los Angeles Times reporter Kim Murphy, who was honored for stories about Russia.

Olojede grew up in Nigeria and worked as journalist there before moving to the United States in 1987 to attend Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. After graduating he joined Newsday in 1988 as an intern. At the end of the summer, Olojede was hired as a report on the Long Island desk. He eventually took over the paper's Africa bureau, in Johannesburg, and then moved to the Asia bureau in Beijing.

Olojede returned to the United States in 2001 to become foreign editor, a post he held until accepting a buyout package last year, reported the newspaper. He is writing a book about the Rwandan genocide, and together with friends in South Africa and Nigeria he's formed a partnership to invest in media companies.

Reunion weekend

Spectacular turnout for Class of 1980 at Spring Meeting, page 2.

Inside:

David Dent, '82, reports from Rome on new pope, page 3

All roads lead to 116th and Broadway

Many in Class of 1980 travel long distances to celebrate

By Wayne Dawkins

More than 60 graduates of the Columbia University Journalism School Class of 1980 showed up for the 25th anniversary reunion cocktail and dinner party April 16 hosted by classmate **Alexis Gelber** and her husband Mark Whitaker.

Turnout was strong considering that about 160 alumni were in our class. More remarkable was the distances some people traveled. **Sonia Goldenberg**, now a documentary filmmaker, came from Peru. West Coast alumni included **Karen Anderson** and **Jon Markman** [Seattle], and **Boris Bezrouke** and **Jeffrey Gottlieb** [Southern California].



Rita Thompson, a producer for "Oprah," flew in that day from Chicago, and **Charles Mapson**, a chief legal executive, came up from Jacksonville, Fla. **Betty Winston Baye** [PHOTO] came in from Kentucky; **Barbara Gutierrez** from Florida and **Lise Chandler White** and yours truly from Virginia.

Goldie Blumenstyk, **Pamela Janis** and **Janelle Conaway** compared Amtrak horror stories after their trip up from Washington, D.C. The high-speed Acela they'd expected to travel on developed cracks in the braking system. They were stuffed onto a crowded and slower coach train.

Most of the reunion classmates came from the New York metro area. They included journalists at the New York Times and Newsday, free-lance writers, authors, filmmakers, teachers, and a state Supreme Court judge.



About 15 people were present Friday to witness classmate **Tom Rosenstiel** receive one of four distinguished Journalism Alumni Awards. Rosenstiel was recognized for his crusading work as executive director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism [www.journalism.org].

He said, "Every generation must reinvent journalism and now we must evolve from 'gatekeepers' to 'authenticators.'" The journalism industry is feeling shell-shocked because of declining newspaper circulation and network TV market share while pseudo journalists with blogs, talk radio and cable TV are flourishing.

Rosenstiel reminded us that our generation entered the industry when Walter Cronkite was anchoring the CBS Evening News, "Nightline" was less than a year old, and the newspaper business a half dozen years after the Watergate scandal, "was confident and more professional, then became arrogant, more liberal and elitist, chased demographics and ignored emerging populations because they were not rich."

Rosenstiel recommended that journalists think and act like entrepreneurs in this new media environment.

About 30 classmates came to the Saturday J-school activities that included the class photo and luncheon. At the luncheon, reunion co-coordinator **Renee Edelman's** dad, Daniel J. Edelman, '41, received the inaugural

Continued

Class of 1980 reunion/continued

Dean's Medal for Public Service, recognizing outstanding work by a graduate who is working communications fields. Edelman runs the world's largest independent public relations firm, Renee Edelman told me. Dean Nick Lemann said Edelman represents the 25 percent to one third of alumni who are not working in journalism.

At the Saturday evening event, Lemann congratulated the Class of 1980 on its successful reunion. Also present was Donald "Pete" Johnston, '50, and president of the alumni association. Classmates learned that we were designated a "model class." Alumni giving this year increased to 20 percent, which amounted to \$23,000 committed over the next five years. The rate of giving was up from the 16-percent participation during our 20th reunion year in 2000, and 10-percent participation last year.

Representatives from the alumni development office reminded classmates they have until June 30 to send gifts and pledges for this fiscal year. Class agents have been encouraging 100-percent participation.



Saturday evening we memorialized six deceased classmates: **Adimu Amili, Richard "Dick" Goldensohn, Susan Johnson [PHOTO], Gunilla Martenson, Barbara Nelson and Ruth Shereff.**

The Class of 1980 was well represented in the Alumni Weekend "Record Book." Twenty three of the 82 bios in the spiral-bound \$5 book were from our class.

"My family and friends were flabbergasted when I returned to the Philippines after graduation," wrote **Adlai J. Amor**, director of media relations for the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C. "They assumed I would stay in the USA as a 'steak commando,' i.e. a Filipino who fought Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship from the comfort of the USA. But I went home, since I had argued with [Prof.] Don Shanor that if none of us from politically repressed countries were admitted and exposed to a free press, we will never know what to do with it when our countries become democratic."

"Beatrice" **Jeanie Wylie**, wrote, "In September of 1998 I collapsed with seizures from a most aggressive tumor – one with an ordinary life expectancy of six months from discovery. I've had multiple surgeries [another scheduled within weeks of writing this] and a series of alternative treatments which have surprised the medicos and us all. I persevere."

Several classmates suggested we produce a group biography online. How about it, folks?



The writer was co-coordinator of the 1980 class reunion and a member of the Columbia Journalism Alumni Association executive committee.

People

David J. Dent, '82, reported from Vatican City for Salon on the selection of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany as the new Roman Catholic pope. "It's easy to find young American Catholics in Rome cheering this moment," Dent wrote, "and calling for a more orthodox and conservative church. But St. Peter's Square is not the world. Amid the flag wavers, singers and dancers, some of the most ardent Catholics admitted that Ratzinger's traditionalism is allergic to the values of young Catholics." Read more at www.salon.com/news/feature/2005/04/20/vatican/print.html.



Continued

Kirk Jackson, '82, of the Allentown Morning Call said hello. He attended an NABJ Mid-Atlantic regional conference last month near Baltimore.

And a hello from **Carline Watson, '95**, of NPR, who attended the alumni weekend in New York.

Monica Lewis, '99, wrote April 28 on BlackAmericaWeb.com about Johnny Sample, 67, a football star who during his 11-year career played in three remarkable games: The 1958 Giants-Colts overtime championship, the 1968 "Heidi" game in which the final minutes of a high-scoring Jets-Raiders battle was pre-empted in order to show a Disney feature, and the Jets' upset win of the Colts in the 1969 Super Bowl. Read more at



www.blackamericaweb.com/site.aspx/bawnews/sample428.

In early April when Black Entertainment Television announced the cancellation of "Nightly News," Doxie McCoy, '78 offered some perspective: "Thought you might be interested in some history on BET News to show how they've now gone full circle," McCoy told NABJ members chatting on an online bulletin board. "When I started at BET as a free-lance reporter in 1995, the news department put together periodic news briefs of about 2 minutes in the afternoons and evenings. We also produced a half-hour 'BET News' that ran on every Friday evening at 6:30. Paul Berry was the first anchor, then Ed Gordon, Jason Hill and Cheryl Martin. That newscast included the major stories of the day but most importantly news stories about black people you would not see on your everyday newscasts, reported by BET News correspondents.

"That program was canceled after several years. Then came a 60-minute 'BET Tonight' With Tavis Smiley, which always started with a 10- to 15- minute news segment before the conversation started. Then Tavis was cut to 30 minutes, then no Tavis, then Ed came back, then Jacque Reid.

"So now we go back to news updates or briefs. Well my mouth dropped when I read that. "Some of you will ask why am I surprised. But as someone who worked as a TV reporter and writer for majority news outlets for more than 10 years prior to reporting and producing for BET News, I thought that we delivered a good product despite the battles we had to fight to get money for the news department."

McCoy left BET in 2001 and is currently communications director for U.S. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton.

THANK YOU, new and renewing April subscribers from **Brooklyn, N.Y.**

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Network Newsletter / Our 25th year/June 2005/ Vol. 25, No. 6

It's safe now for Native Americans to go to Boston

Boston was among three finalists for the 2008 Unity Journalists of Color convention. But it posed a problem: Under a 1675 Massachusetts law, Indians found inside the city would be subject to arrest.

Legally, members of the Native American Journalists Association [NAJA] would be unwelcome in the city.

On May 20, Gov. Mitt Romney signed a bill repealing the archaic law.



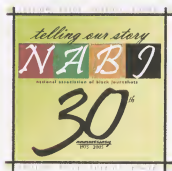
"It is our hope," said Romney, "that signing this bill into law will provide some closure to a very painful and old chapter in Massachusetts history. This archaic law belongs in the history books, not the law books."

A Boston Globe story brought the colonial era law to light. It was passed in 1675 during King Philip's War between colonists and local tribes. The law has not been enforced in centuries, but in a statement Romney said its abolition is a symbolic measure that underscores the openness and tolerance of modern-day Massachusetts.

Unity Journalists of Color officials representing associations of black, Hispanic, Asian and Native American journalists are to decide this month whether the site for its fourth summit since 1994 will be Boston, Chicago or Washington, D.C., site of the 2004 convention.

Authors showcase in Atlanta

Back by popular demand – The NABJ Authors Showcase.



This event will be held during the 30th Annual Convention & Career Fair, Aug. 3-7, at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel. This unique member benefit and convention-long showcase will provide opportunities for NABJ members to promote their books and offer aspiring authors expert advice on how to write, sell and market that manuscript.

At the last showcase in Dallas in 2003, about 40 authors participated.

Support the efforts to promote the highest quality and standards in the journalism industry. Get connected with NABJ, expand your knowledge and create experiences for success.

Priority is given to books that have been published within a year of the last NABJ convention. NABJ members who have authored books that were published before 2004 are invited to participate in a group book signing/reception to be held Thursday, Aug. 4.

Continued on next page

Authors showcase/Continued

Authors Showcase Program Award-winning author **A'Lelia Bundles** and August Press publisher **Wayne Dawkins** will chair the 2005 program. The showcase will be held at the Hyatt on Aug. 3-6. The program will include panels such as Dawkins's Self-Publishing Workshop, author presentations and book signings.

Submission Guidelines All entries require the following:

- A completed entry form
- Three copies of the published book
- Author biography (40 words or less)
- Book description (40 words or less)

Submission deadline: June 1, 2005.

Mail completed entry to: Kelly Madison, National Association of Black Journalists, c/o Authors Showcase, 8701-A Adelphi Road, Adelphi, Md. 20783-1716.

Cancellations must be received in writing by July 20, for a full refund.

People



Bill Hamilton, '80, associate professor,

Jefferson Community College, Louisville, with two favorite students – William III, 16 and Victoria, 20.

"I was truly included in our reunion through the BAN newsletter [May]," wrote Hamilton. "I was there at the founding in **Betty Baye's** Fifth Avenue apartment, and since then, I've felt part of that special 1980 Columbia

University GSJ class. That year on Broadway was something else. I expected to advance a writing career – features, magazines, but know the path I took was right for me. The extended academic deadline is good work in its own right, and was truly shaped by Columbia. What a kick to bring to mind so many classmates and to teach **James McBride**, **Jill Nelson**, others from their books in the course of shaping college writers. Louisville has long since adopted Betty Baye, also cited by many colleagues in their own classrooms. Not just our crew, but from time to time I spot many names I met in the World Room. See y'all at the next big family reunion, finals week notwithstanding!"



Lise Funderburg, '91, brought us up to date on what she's been doing: Last year she was awarded a 2004 Puffin Foundation grant and in 2003 received a Nonfiction Fellowship from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. She has twice been selected as the writer-in-residence at The James Thurber House in Columbus Ohio, during which she taught courses at The Ohio State University. She has taught at Rutgers University. Funderburg is currently an instructor in creative

nonfiction writing at The University of Pennsylvania. Read more about her at lisefunderburg.com.

Continued on next page

Cheryl Devall, '82, attended the National Conference for Media Reform last month in St. Louis. Devall, assistant director of the USC Annenberg Center for the Study of Journalism & Democracy wrote: "It was a gathering that included the pierced-and-tattooed to the graying. It wasn't unusual to find circles of activists seated on the floors of the conference hotel, engaged in earnest strategizing. One thing members of this crowd had in common, besides a predilection toward left-liberal politics, was an insistence that mass media, broadly defined, treat them primarily as citizens and not consumers." Read her full May 21 account at www.poynter.org/content/content_view.asp?id=82700



"Robin Harris cast such a spell during his explosion onto the comedy scene that, 15 years after his death, there are those of us who still revere him as the funniest man ever, and as the progenitor of a new generation of comics that stand in his fading shadow," **Esther Iverem, '83**, SeeingBlack.com editor and film critic wrote last month in her review of "We Don't Die, We Multiply" a documentary on Harris. Read the entire piece at www.seeingblack.com/2005/x042905/robinharris_movies.shtml

Jobline

Assistant/Associate Professor in Journalism: The Department of English and Writing in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at The University of Tampa has a tenure-track position in print journalism starting January 2006, pending funding. A Masters or Ph.D. in Journalism is required and newspaper or newsmagazine experience is strongly preferred. The teaching load is 12 credit hours per semester (three 4-credit courses), including a 4-credit practicum as adviser to the student newspaper. Opportunity to help develop a journalism major and new courses. Salary competitive. Mail packages to: The University of Tampa, Office of Human Resources, c/o Journalism Tenure Track 401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33606-1490, or apply online at <http://hr.ut.edu>.

The South Florida Sun-Sentinel is looking for a **reporter** to cover public safety in Palm Beach County. Join a three-member team that handles breaking news and enterprise involving police and fire departments, plus others dealing with security. For more information, see www.sun-sentinel.com/opportunities. Submit a cover letter, resume and 8 to 10 clips to: Kathleen Pellegrino, Recruitment Editor, South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 200 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, kpellegrino@sun-sentinel.com.

The Roanoke Times, located in Virginia's beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, is looking for a curious, smart, creative and energetic **editor** to lead a motivated team of six people to produce daily a dynamic and visually striking business report. This experienced journalist must have the skills, talents and leadership to help deliver thorough and knowing coverage of our region's businesses and economy. A belief in collaboration is a must. A sense of humor is a winning attribute. And a sense that business writing should sing is a treasure. The Roanoke Times (circulation 100,000 daily) is owned by Landmark Communications, which also owns The Virginian Pilot, the Greensboro News & Record, The Weather Channel and dozens of other smaller dailies, weeklies and broadcast outlets.

Continued on next page

We work in a team environment and offer excellent pay, health and dental insurance, 401(k), pension plan, life insurance, tuition reimbursement and outstanding growth opportunities within Landmark. If you're the business editor we need, please reply with a resume and letter of introduction to Editor Mike Riley at Box 2491, Roanoke, VA, 24010, or mike.riley@roanoke.com. In your letter of application, explain why you think you are the best candidate for this opening. Application deadline: **June 10**.

Journalism educator's award: Call for nominees

The National Conference of Editorial Writers annually grants a Barry Bingham Sr. Fellowship – actually an award – “in recognition of an educator's outstanding efforts to encourage minority students in the field of journalism.” The educator should be at the college or university level. Since 2000, an honorarium of \$1,000 has been awarded the recipient, to be used to “further work in progress or begin a new project.”



Past winners include **James Hawkins** of Florida A&M University (1990); **Larry Kaggwa** of Howard U. (1992); **Ben Holman** of the U. of Md. (1996); **Linda Jones**, Roosevelt U., Chicago (1998); **Ramon Chavez**, U. of Colorado, Boulder (1999); **Erna Smith** of San Francisco State (2000), **Joseph Selden** of Penn State (2001), **Cheryl Smith**, Paul Quinn College (2002), **Rose**

Richard, Marquette University (2003) and **Leara D. Rhodes** of the University of Georgia (2004). Here is a news release on last year's award.

www.uga.edu/news/artman/publish/printer_041029rhodes.shtml

Nominations are now open for the 2005 honor. The nomination consists of a statement about why you believe your nominee is deserving. **Deadline: June 15.**

The final selection will be made by the NCEW Foundation board and will be announced in time for this year's NCEW convention in Portland, Ore., Sept. 14-17, when the presentation will be made. E-mail nominations to Vanessa Gallman, editorial page editor, Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader, vgallman@herald-leader.com, or fax them to her at 859-231-3332. Again, deadline is June 15.

Sent by Richard Prince, Alexandria, Va., co-chair, NCEW Diversity Committee

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Network Newsletter /Our 25th year/August 2005/ Vol. 25, No. 8

Best at making good on promise in Africa



Kenneth Best, GSJ-'67, and 2004 Columbia Journalism Alumni Award winner, made good on his promise one year ago during his acceptance speech: He returned to Liberia and launched the Daily Observer of Monrovia, Liberia.

"With renewed zeal to serve the people, we're back again," said a June 19 editorial that was online at <http://allafrica.com/>.

Best first launched the Daily Observer in February 1981. He said the military regime of Sergeant Samuel Doe that had initially seized power in 1980 harassed him and his staff. The paper withstood three arson attacks, but the office was finally destroyed in 1990. Best then moved his paper to The Gambia in May 1992 where it stayed until 1994, when he moved to the United States. Best lived in exile in the United States for 11 years before returning to Liberia this past year.

In 1995, Best won the NABJ Percy Qoboza award for excellence in international journalism. In April 2004, he told Columbia J-alumni, "Press freedom will be established in Africa," and he accepted the alumni award "for thousands of African journalists, many who paid the supreme sacrifice for our noble profession." [May 2004 BA Newsletter].

'77 Alumna joins Columbia Executive Committee

Dorothy Davis, '77, joined the Columbia University Alumni executive committee this summer. Born in Liberia of U.S. Foreign Service parents, Davis has traveled extensively in Africa doing development work primarily for the United Nations and the African American Institute. Through her company, The Diasporan Touch, she is currently working on a research project on the African Diaspora for the Ford Foundation and writing a book about her experiences growing up in the Foreign Service. Her late father **Griff** was also an alumnus of the J-school. He was the first **Roving Editor** of the **Ebony**, a longtime international free-lance photojournalist with Agency and a U.S. Foreign Service Officer posted in Liberia, Nigeria. In Liberia and Tunisia respectively, he helped create the Information under President William V.S. Tubman and Habib Bourguiba. [Here is one of Davis' photos]. Visit www.griffdavis.com/.



The 19-member late father **Griff** meetings at other activities

www.jrn.columbia.edu/alumni/associations/association/members/. Last February, Dorothy Davis wrote an appreciation of the late Lonnie Stephens, '78, for this newsletter.

executive committee administers the fall and spring alumni Columbia, publishes the quarterly Alumni Journal and organizes for its worldwide network of classmates

Southern exposure

Check out the great opportunities in **Jobline**. Pages, 3 and 4

Inside:

J-Alumni Breakfast, Authors Showcase, top NABJ-Atlanta activities. Page 2

Black Alumni Network Breakfast @ NABJ-Atlanta

8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 6.

Meet at The Café in the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, 404-659-1400.

Call 800-268-4338 to RSVP or message wdawkins4bj@aol.com.

There will an update on our scholarship endowment drive.

NABJ Authors Showcase

Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 4 to 6.

Thirty authors, including Columbia Journalism alumni **Cora Daniels**, **Yolanda Joe** and **Jill Nelson**. Five workshops, including Independent Publishing 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 Aug. 6. A'Lelia Bundles, '76, and Wayne Dawkins, '80, are co-coordinators of the third annual event. For information contact A'Lelia.Bundles@abc.com.

Reggie Stuart wins top honor for media diversity

Reginald Stuart, J-'71, corporate recruiter with Knight Ridder Co., is this year's winner of the annual Ida B. Wells award, bestowed jointly by NABJ and the National Conference of Editorial Writers [NCEW].



"The testimonials of the grateful journalists who nominated Reggie for this award made it very rewarding to select Reggie for this richly deserved award," said Herb Lowe, president of NABJ. "Quite frankly," said the Newsday reporter, "as much as we want to see our nation's newsrooms even more diverse, I shudder to think about how they would look without Reggie. He has single-handedly brought and, more importantly, kept many, many journalists of color in the business."

"Reginald Stuart is an amazing man," said Kay Semion, president of NCEW, and associate editorial page editor at The News-Journal in Daytona Beach, Fla. "He has taken it upon himself to nurture minority journalists not only within his organization but also throughout the newspaper industry. The testimonials of how he has gone way out of his way to support people are awesome. He truly deserves the Wells award."

Stuart will receive the award Oct. 15 at the National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence Awards in Washington, D.C. www.nabj.org

Continued

Stuart joined The New York Times in 1974 as a business reporter. He stayed with The Times for 13 years then joined Knight Ridder in 1987 as a national affairs correspondent in Washington for the Philadelphia Daily News. Stuart was an editor for seven years before leaving Knight Ridder in 1997. He returned a few months later as corporate recruiter, working with the company's newspapers to recruit news and business side talent and run its corporate internship programs.

Stuart was president of the Society of Professional Journalists [SPJ] in the mid-1990s. He was also wrote "Kemba's Nightmare" for Emerge magazine. That cover story exposed the injustice of mandatory minimum prison terms and generated a campaign to free the subject. Kemba Smith's 25-year sentence for a first-time offense was commuted by President Clinton at the end 2000.

Ida B. Wells editorialized against lynching in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Jobline

The *Herald News*, a 34,500-circulation daily based in West Paterson, N.J., and 35 minutes from Times Square, seeks an exceptional **copy editor** and **layout editor** for our features desk. The ideal candidate will design creative, eye-catching pages with magazine flair, write headlines that grab even the busiest reader and apply demanding copy-editing skills to both wire and staff material. Required: At least one year of copy editing and design experience at a daily, proficiency with Quark and a proven record as a creative team player. Send resume, clips and salary requirement to Stephen McCarthy, managing editor/assignment, Herald News, 1 Garret Mountain Plaza, West Paterson, NJ, 07424, or e-mail to mmccarthys@northjersey.com.

The *Charlotte Observer* seeks a strong **editor** to join the **metro desk**. The ideal candidate has at least five years of experience putting hard news dailies, weekenders and longer-term projects into the paper. The job involves working with several of our top beat reporters, including overseeing coverage of a 100,000-plus school district. We're looking for a sophisticated editor who loves watchdog journalism and helping reporters put exclusive stories in the paper. Experience working with the Internet or television is a plus. Send 10 work samples, a resume and a one-page cover letter to Jim Walser, senior editor, The Charlotte Observer, P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, N.C. 28230. Send hard copies of this material, not e-mail versions.

Do you write headlines in your sleep? Do they make readers read, reporters rejoice and editors weep with joy? Do you have a flair for making flabby prose perfectly precise? Why not put those skills into practice on the copy desk of *The Virginian-Pilot*? Duties include editing local and wire copy on the night desk; writing headlines and outlines; and working with our award-winning designers to make sure stories are presented with the best combination of words, photos and graphics. Required: Three to five years' experience at a daily newspaper, with some of that in slot; a mastery of grammar, spelling and Associated Press style, and excellent news judgment. Candidates will be evaluated using Targeted Selection. To apply, contact: Amy Savona, copy desk chief, The Virginian-Pilot, 150 W. Brambleton Ave. Norfolk, VA 23510. or amy.savona@pilotonline.com

The *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* seeks a seasoned **reporter** and writer to tackle the **federal beat**. Aggressive reporting and strong source development skills are essential. This is a high-profile beat for

Continued

Jobline/Continued

someone who can produce Page 1 stories on a steady basis with sharp writing that reflects a sophisticated insight into the legal system. This person will be based in Fort Lauderdale and will cover the South Florida region. The federal courthouse is home to many of the area's numerous fraud schemes and spectacular criminal cases. The reporter will serve as our link with key federal agencies such as the FBI, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the DEA. If there is a local angle to the new Department of Homeland Security, it is the reporter's responsibility to find it. If there is a ruling, criminal or civil, in federal court that promises to have a big impact, it is this reporter's responsibility to understand and clearly explain it. Applicants should have at least five years of reporting experience. Court-reporting experience is preferred but not required. The Sun-Sentinel – daily circulation 260,000 and Sunday 360,000 – is a part of Tribune Co. Send a letter describing area of interest, resume and 8-10 work samples to Kathy Pellegrino, recruitment editor, Sun-Sentinel, 200 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. E-Mail: kpellegrino@sun-sentinel.com.

The *Free Lance-Star* [50,000 circulation] in Fredericksburg, Va. seeks a **Life reporter**. This reporter is responsible for generating story and art ideas for the weekly Food section, as well as planning and producing that section. This position also serves as a backup to the Life editor in that person's absence. This reporter also will research and write Food and other feature stories. Bachelors' degree in relevant area; knowledge of food, recipes and cooking; and minimum two years editing experience required. Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills also are required. Must be able to work under deadline pressure. To apply, forward completed application (résumé may be attached, but not substituted), writing samples and salary requirements to Human Resources, The Free Lance-Star, 616 Amelia Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. Applications are available at The Free Lance-Star, 616 Amelia Street, Fredericksburg, our North Stafford location, 616 Garrisonville Road, Stafford, and online at www.fredericksburg.com/flsjobs

The *Montgomery Advertiser* in Alabama seeks a **business editor**: Looking for an editor who understands business reporting and has the ability to supervise business reporters as well as to do some writing. Line editing experience at a daily newspaper is a must for this position and candidates should have at least five years of daily newspaper experience. The paper also seeks an **assistant metro editor** and **computer-assisted/investigative reporter**. Contact: Wanda Lloyd, executive editor, Montgomery Advertiser, wlloyd@gannett.com or 334-261-1509.

THANK YOU, new and renewing July subscribers from **Los Angeles** and **Chicago**.

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Network Newsletter / Our 25th year / September 2005 / Vol. 25, No. 9

Leading roles for J-alumni at NABJ-30

Endowment drive announced at annual breakfast

ATLANTA – Seventeen Columbia Journalism alumni, faculty and administrators, and a student in the class of 2005-06 participated in the annual Black Alumni Network breakfast Aug. 6 at the National Association of Black Journalists convention.

This year, envelopes with appeal letters and pledge forms greeted attendees along with their coffee, eggs and bacon. On this our silver anniversary, BAN launched a fund drive with a goal of raising \$100,000 from alumni in order to endow a scholarship at Columbia. This year the Graduate School of Journalism awarded the first BAN scholarship, a \$5,000 gift, to **Dani McClain** for the 2006 school year beginning this month. The J-school is committed to awarding scholarships for five to seven years. Money comes from a \$34,000 gift given by a source interested in promoting diversity in journalism. Alumni are now challenged to make the scholarship program permanent.

Tell a fellow J-School grad about this fund-raising campaign; consider a personal pledge of at least \$200 a year for five years to support the next generation of Columbia graduates

ABOUT \$15,000 is already in the Black Alumni Network endowment fund. Over the next five years, will you agree to make a gift totaling \$25,000 [\$5,000/year]; \$15,000 [\$3,000/year]; \$10,000 [\$2,000/year]; \$5,000 [\$1,000/year]; \$1,000 [\$200/year]? Other \$ _____. **Payment options:** Personal check [payable to "Trustees of Columbia University"], credit card, Visa/MasterCard/American Express/Discover. Return forms to Amanda Wilson, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, 2950 Broadway, Seventh Floor, New York, NY 10027.



Known in NABJ circles as the "Columbia Mafia," black J-school grads are highly visible inside the 4,000-member association: **Mira Lowe**, '88, directed the NABJ-30 anniversary and history project [SHOWN HERE with husband Herb Lowe]. **Paul Mason**, '81, senior vice president with ABC News, gave a moving tribute of late founder and ABC trailblazer Max Robinson. **Michelle Johnson**, '82, led the NABJ Student Online Project, which allowed members and friends who were not in

Continued on next page

INSIDE: Prophetic tribute to John H. Johnson, page 4



Atlanta to keep up with daily activities from cyberspace. At the breakfast, **A'Lelia Bundles, '76**, co-coordinator of the Authors Showcase [PHOTO], bolted in order to be on time for the first of two morning panels. **Jill Nelson, '80**, was on the first panel to discuss her new book ["Finding Martha's Vineyard: African Americans at Home on an Island"]. The previous day, **Yolanda Joe, '85**, author of "Video Cowboys", moderated a lively panel on fiction writing that included Bebe Moore Campbell ["72 Hour Hold"].

Wayne Dawkins, '80, co-coordinator of the Authors Showcase, stayed a little longer for the alumni breakfast, but he had to leave in order to moderate his panel on independent and self-publishing. Dawkins' historical writing on NABJ was ubiquitous for four days, whether in historical "factoids" flashed on Jumbotrons at the Friday banquet, interviews published in the daily NABJ Monitor or in his founder's tribute delivered at the opening ceremony. As Dawkins walked briskly to his session, he caught **Addie Rimmer, '78**, and June Cross secluded in a restaurant booth, away from the breakfast crowd. They were going over syllabuses for the new semester. So goes the intense activity of Columbia alumni and faculty at NABJ conventions.



Here is a roll call of breakfast attendees: **Lawrence Aaron, '70, N.J.**; **Mark Allwood**, class of 2006, N.Y.; **Rahwa Asmeron, '05, Ga.**; **A'Lelia Bundles, '76, D.C.**; **June Cross**, faculty, GSJ; **Wayne Dawkins, '80, Va.**; **Nyia Hawkins, '05, N.Y.**; **Olga Joseph, '92, Md.**; **Doxie McCoy, '78, D.C.**; **Linda Wright Moore, '73, Pa.**; **Arlene Morgan**, associate dean, GSJ; **Gayle Pollard Terry, '73, Calif.**; **Toni Randolph, '88, Minn.**; **Addie Rimmer, '78, N.Y.**; **Curt Simmons, '91, N.Y.**; **Ernest Sotomayor**, GSJ career services [PHOTO]; **Jamillah Wright, '03, N.Y.**

People

Erin Texeira, '95, of the shifting demographics confusing, according to state in which whites are Hawaii and New Mexico. and Arizona as states people of color, reported contributing editor to went to South Carolina for Orangeburg, S.C. Scott Ghana. ... **Robert David** policy conference in New the event was for several members. He was a diversity and coordinated an issues workshop on disability rights, focusing on electronic voting and disabled people. **Charlotte Golar Richie, '85**, [PHOTO] chief and director, City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development, accepts award from Peace Corps Deputy Director Jody Olsen. Richie was a Peace Corps volunteer in the 1980s.



Associated Press reported in late August that rendered the word "minority" inaccurate and critics. Texas recently became the fourth U.S. the minority population, joining California, Maryland, Mississippi, Georgia, New York where at least 40 percent of the population are Texeira. ... **Donald Scott, '90**, is a Afrigenes www.afrigenes.com. In July he genealogy research on the Sea Islands and family members have traced their roots to **Addams, '80**, participated in an ACLU Orleans in late July. Addams explained that hundred people, including affiliate board panelist on a leadership workshop on

NABJ-30: More bodies, more bank, yet troubling signs demand attention

ATLANTA – The swagger was back in the steps of National Association of Black Journalists members. Attendance exceeded expectations. NABJ planned for 3,000 people, but 3,200 came to the four-day event, Executive Director Tangie Newborn reported at the Aug. 6 business meeting. Total membership exceeds 4,000. That's an improvement over fewer than 3,000 members only five years ago.

Wayne Dawkins/COMMENTARY



There's money in the bank. NABJ has a \$2 million operating budget and it is reporting surpluses. That's good news compared to 2001 when deficits rocked the association and revolting members demanded changes.

Well, the changes have come. NABJ has more bodies, more bank and newsmakers as diverse as former President Bill Clinton and the Rev. T.D. Jakes came to talk to us. So all is well, right? Not really.

NABJ leaders should be a little afraid or at least skeptical about the near future. Structurally, there are foundation problems that resemble 1995, a decade ago when the association was fat, prosperous, but on course for rough times.

Let's start with the elections. In a three-way race for president of NABJ, 601 out of about 2,000 eligible full voting members cast ballots for winning candidate Bryan Monroe, close second Cheryl Smith and worthy third candidate Mike Woolfolk.

Fewer than one third of the eligible members cast ballots.

In 2003, 35 percent of eligible members elected Herbert Lowe president. In 2001, 42 percent of eligible members chose Condace Pressley as their president.

Even more alarming was the absence of competition for the remaining board seats. Every seat was uncontested except one. That seat was *vacant* and was to be filled by board appointment. www.nabj.org/about/regions/region4/

Ironically, this was the first year members elected a slimmed-down board, 14 seats instead of 17. The reduced size was intended to cut costs and stimulate competition. The latter motive failed.

Continued on next page

A decade ago 14 of the 17 board seats, including the presidency, were uncontested or vacant. That lack of competition warned of malaise and apathy. NABJ experienced seven years of decline – declining membership, revenues [even a brief period of deficits], and a reluctance to battle the media industry in a timely manner. That was because association leaders were concerned about their fiscal house than about stepping up.

To be fair, the unpredictable ways of the U.S. economy and dramatic changes in the media industry affect NABJ's structure. When corporations are downsizing newsroom staffs or changing the models for doing business, members may be more concerned with their personal means of making a living than stepping up to leadership roles within NABJ, whether that is the national board of dozens of local chapters.

Nevertheless, as NABJ members return home from Atlanta energized from a well attended convention that crackled with energy, there should be renewed commitment to keep our momentum going. That will mean identifying talent worthy of competing for NABJ offices, because competition keeps the association sharp and vigilant.

YOUR PULITZER PRIZES don't impress me, Andrew Young, former Atlanta mayor, U.S. Rep. and U.N. ambassador, told NABJ members at the closing gospel brunch. Winning a Pulitzer means you wrote something that black people already knew, but white people were just finding out about, said Young.

The gold standard for journalism, he said, was breaking a story in Jet magazine.

What a prophetic tribute to Ebony and Jet Publisher John H. Johnson, who died the next day at age 87. Published appreciations praised Johnson's iron will. He convinced white advertisers there was a black consumer base worth marketing to. Johnson consciously used his publications to show blacks prospering and succeeding.

Often critics dismissed Johnson's magazines as too "bourgie" for the existing black reality. Yet, with an initial \$500 investment he built – and kept – a publishing empire with staying power.

THANK YOU, new and renewing August subscribers from Westampton, N.J.

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Alumni

Time Inc.'s editor at large, page 4

Network

Newsletter /Our 25th year/October 2005/ Vol. 25, No. 10

Everyone from the devastated Gulf Coast is 'your' people

LOS ANGELES – “Do you have people down there?”

In the days following Hurricane Katrina, I've asked everyone I've met – the brother behind me at the drugstore checkout, the Vietnamese-American clerk at the post office, my zydeco pals around the country.

Cheryl Devall/Commentary

Every one of them did. Every one worried. And during the week before Labor Day, every one of us spent sleepless late hours trying to absorb what happened. Katrina and the subsequent flooding were bad enough. Anyone who's lived through or covered hurricanes – I've done both, so I know – can tell you to expect structural damage, prolonged electricity failures, scattered injuries and loss of life. But there was always a swift, targeted emergency response – the cavalry riding to the rescue – often on the same flights as the reporters.

Watching and trying to stay on top of this unfolding catastrophe, it's been hard for me not to shout. Sometimes I've hollered at the TV, as CNN's Wolf Blitzer, scanning the footage, marveled, “they're so poor...and so black.” Or at the radio as President Bush, when pressed to explain his concern that the initial response to the disaster was “unacceptable,” revealed he'd been talking about security. Not about the failure to rush food, medicine and water to tens of thousands of hot, hungry, stranded human beings, but the failure to curb alleged looting. Sometimes I'd shout to my colleagues, “Come in here! Can you believe this!?”

Continued on back page

Biloxi blues: Hard times in Mississippi

Reginald Stuart, '71, of Knight Ridder Co. was in the Gulf Coast to help Biloxi Sun-Herald employees get back on their feet as they continue to produce the newspaper.
<http://www.sunherald.com/mld/sunherald/> Here is Stuart's report from the front:

BILOXI, Miss. – Sept. 17 was my 12th and final day here. People say I've worked wonders in that short time. Given the magnitude of what has to be done for the survivors of Katrina to recover and rebuild, it feels like what I've done is akin to adding a drop of water to the Atlantic or Pacific. I've worked about 18 hours a day each day and know I've made headway. There's just so much to do.

Still people have thanked me and my emergency housing colleagues for what we've done. For me, I was my usual take-charge self after the first day of disbelief. I got to know as many people in this building as I could and as quickly as I could.

Continued on page 2

Biloxi Blues/Continued

As the H.R. staff completed needs assessments – do you need housing, food, money, a loan, just basic, basic stuff – I'd swing into action and try to place these folks wherever the housing search crew could find habitable housing. Remember, 40 percent of the housing in the area was wiped out, so we're dealing with the remaining 60 percent, much of which was damaged.

In 12 days, we've found emergency, temporary housing for about 40 people. We're putting them in a flop house down the road that we're cleaning up, an RV park, several residential units we've found all over the area and the Travel Lodge down the Interstate.



Everyone is having to compromise from what they had, since what they had is no more. If only finding employees housing was the final step in the process.

People need clothes. They need gasoline. They need new tires. The tires they have are being damaged by the debris on the roads. People need day care.

Most of all, folks need someone to talk to. They don't always admit it. You have to push them, kindly, gently. First, you have to win their trust, then assure them it's OK to cry, share what's on their minds and that you understand, really understand. They don't want pity. They just want help for a minute, an ear for a minute.

Everyone here has been touched by this disaster. There is still a curfew – off the streets by 8 p.m. We're still on bottled water. Hot water is at a premium.

As sad as it is here much of the time, people are propping up their morale a lot. They are doing a good job propping up one another. And, some people who weren't affected by the hurricane as much in terms of property losses are helping others keep their spirits up.

There have been a few light moments: Immediately after the hurricane, the crew called in to convert the paper's parking lot to an emergency housing compound was moving the Porta Potties around on the back lot. Little did they know, as the fork lift was raising the bank of units, the editor of the paper was inside one of them.

Don't forget these folks. They will need our support and help from at least two or three years. This is not a sprint. It is definitely a marathon.

Unintended humor trails hurricane survivors

Chris Rock's unscripted comment at a televised fund-raiser Sept. 9 was just the right statement in response to mean-spirited comments from pundits that poor folks in New Orleans got what they deserved for being stranded and reluctant to evacuate.

Wayne Dawkins/Commentary



"We've all heard the question," Rock said. "Why didn't these people just leave when they had the chance? But now we realize that not everybody can just jump into their SUVs and drive to a nice hotel. These people depend on public transportation and these people can't afford a nice hotel, because some of them work there. Now it's your chance to help them." Continued on next page

Dawkins/Continued

The comedian's observation connected with the fifth stanza of Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land." My minister recently urged us to sing Guthrie's critique that is routinely dropped from sanitized versions of his song:

*In the squares of the city – in the shadow of the steeple
Near the relief office – I see my people
And some are grumblin' and some are wonderin'
If this land's still made for you and me*

I write this on Sept. 11, the fourth anniversary of 9-11, and the second full week of attempting to make sense of Hurricane Katrina's devastation. [At presstime, Hurricane Rita was threatening the Gulf Coast.]

As news coverage shifted to recovery and relocation, dark comedy rushed in.

Rock's free-styling two days before was airy and light, despite producer's fears that he would pull a Kanye West like the previous week. "Bush hates black people," was West's inarticulate yet conscious reaction to Barbara Bush's insensitive remarks about the displaced poor: "So many of the people in the arena here, you know, were underprivileged anyway," she told NPR, "so this is working very well for them."

OK, to exaggerate, Rock blurted "Bush hates midgets!" Nearly everyone got the joke.

The wise guys on NPR quiz show "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me!" were not joking Sept. 10 when they read the qualifications of Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Michael "Brownie" Brown to an incredulous truck driver from Chicago.

'Bush hates midgets!' Nearly everyone got the joke.

"What!" bellowed the contestant after he was assured that humorists were not exaggerating: An Arabian show horse official and friend of one of the president's friends was running the government disaster agency. Critics claimed Brown's human error – slow reaction to Katrina – compounded a natural disaster.

The editors of the New Orleans Times-Picayune on Sept. 4 published an open letter calling for the firing of the head of FEMA. The paper could speak authoritatively because in 2002 they published a series predicting today's devastation unless preventive measures were taken. Their recommendations were mostly ignored. This time it looks like government officials heeded their Sept. 4 recommendation. "Brownie" was recalled to Washington and a new person was tasked to direct the federal relief effort.

There was more unintentional or cruel comedy. There was a report that Halliburton, yes Halliburton, that company with ties to Vice President Cheney, was contracted to do the cleanup work.

Cheney by the way was dispatched to the Gulf Coast to comfort the victims, which comedian D.L. Hughley said was akin to comforting an infant by handing her a cactus.

Finally, my minister's counsel on Sunday, Sept. 11 to be wary of "Sunshine Patriots" and leaders bent on restricting liberty and freedom with a so-called Patriot Act, served as a reminder for journalists to stay vigilant, observant and to bark if they see suspicious behavior.

I'm thinking of the newspaper editor in Alexandria, La. who about a week into the crisis said that while colleagues were debating whether it was appropriate to say "refugee," "evacuee," or "victim" to accurately describe hundreds of thousands of people displaced by Katrina, in her community a \$1.6 million cleanup contract was awarded to a white-owned company while the three black commissioners who normally would hear such government business were not told of the meeting.

Gulf Coast/Continued

At yet another montage of desperate, angry black people, doing their own justifiable shouting at news crews and wondering how their government could abandon them this way. I've even cried "Preach!" to the editorial page of The New York Times; from day one it's reflected, in the sharpest possible language, the sorrow, fury, longing and civic shame I've been feeling.

It's clear the saga that followed this storm will remain with us for the months and years it'll take to renew the victims' lives and rebuild the region. As directly as any national story in recent years, it's forced to the forefront of our consciousness the harsh, persistent fault lines of race and class. The moral challenge to the news media will be to stay focused on that important element of the tale even as the disaster relief coverage fades away. Because, no matter where you're from, everyone in the Gulf Coast region is your people.



Cheryl Devall, '82 is a Columbia University Journalism alumna. Her daddy grew up in Baton Rouge, La. Her mommy is from Ocean Springs, Miss. Many of Devall's sweetest memories originate in New Orleans. She spent the summer editing NPR's "News and Notes with Ed Gordon."

People

Sheryl Hilliard Tucker, '82, last month became Time Inc. editor at large, a promotion from executive editor of Money magazine. For over 10 years Hilliard was a mainstay of Money, where she served as an adviser to three managing editors and became, for many of the title's advertising clients, the face of Money's editorial leadership, said Norman Pearlstine, editor in chief of Time, Inc. "In her time at Money," he continued, "she managed some of the title's most important franchises, including the Americans and their Money survey, the Money Summit, and special projects ranging from the relaunch of Your Company [now Fortune Small Business] to Money Magazine's yearly financial boot camp for National Football League rookies. This spring, she emerged as one of the key architects of Money magazine's successful redesign."



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School days [column], page 2

Newsletter / Our 25th year/ November 2005/ Vol. 25, No. 11

Time to nominate Columbia J-Alumni

The Columbia University Journalism



School Alumni Awards recognize men and women for distinguished careers in any medium, for an outstanding single accomplishment in journalism, for

notable contributions to journalism education, or for achievement in related

fields. Heidi Evans, '84, Dennis



and Marquita Pool-Eckert, '69 [2002, right column photo].

Redmont, '63, Tom Rosenstiel, '80, and Joe Saltzman, '63, were this year's winners. Other recent winners include **Kenneth Best**, '67 [2004, left column photo]

Graduates are encouraged to nominate living alumni who merit the award. A form can be found at: www.jrn.columbia.edu/alumni/associations/association/awards/nominations/nomination2006.doc The awards are given at the annual spring meeting. The Alumni Association Executive Committee selects the recipients. Provide sufficient information about the nominee's achievements and include supporting materials such as curriculum vitae, clips of stories, books or tapes. **Deadline for entries is Dec. 1.** Send nominations to Irena Choi Stern, Alumni Office, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, 2950 Broadway, MC 3800, New York, NY 10027. Or, attach as a Word file and e-mail to ics9@columbia.edu

Tell a fellow J-School grad about fund-raising campaign

Consider a personal pledge of at least \$200 a year for five years to support the next generation of Columbia journalism graduates

ABOUT \$15,000 is already in the Black Alumni Network **endowment fund**. The goal is to raise 100,000 [September edition] in order to endow a scholarship at Columbia. Over the next five years, will you agree to make a gift totaling **\$25,000** [\$5,000/year]; **\$15,000** [\$3,000/year]; **\$10,000** [\$2,000/year]; **\$5,000** [\$1,000/year]; **\$1,000** [\$200/year]?

Payment options: Personal check [payable to "Trustees of Columbia University"], credit card, Visa/MasterCard/American Express/Discover. Return forms to Amanda Wilson, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, 2950 Broadway, Seventh Floor, New York, NY 10027.

FORUM: CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES IN POST-PLAME ERA. Page 3

New sitcom recalls bittersweet school days

My must-see, must-program-the-recorder sitcom this fall is "Everybody Hates Chris" at 8 p.m. Thursdays on UPN. Comedian Chris Rock narrates his bittersweet memories of being bused from Brooklyn's Bedford Stuyvesant to a predominantly white junior high school south of the ghetto. Tyler James Williams plays young Chris with bug-eyed charm; He has to navigate race-baiting bullies, student mobs who blame him for everything under the sun, and indifferent administrators and teachers.

Wayne Dawkins/COMMENTARY



"Everybody Hates Chris" leaves me howling with delight or sometimes crying from an especially wicked scene. My school experiences mirror the comedian's. Rock's story is junior high school, circa 1982. My experience was high school, New Utrecht in Brooklyn's Bensonhurst from 1969-73.

Yes, I was bused to a predominantly white high school in that area, but my experiences were benign compared to the daily traumas Rock recalled. When it was time to choose from two high schools that accepted Shallow JHS students, I chose New Utrecht, because I did not want to walk past a graveyard to get to school. That would have been the deal had I chosen the other high school. I did not know that scenes scarier than graveyards awaited me at New Utrecht.

The Italian-American majority resented the Jewish kids who came in from Borough Park, the neighborhood above Bensonhurst. So what did these "host" students think of the blacks like me commuting up to an hour on four subway trains to come to New Utrecht from Bed-Stuy? They didn't lay out the welcome mat.

I recall a black boy, small of stature and dark as midnight, who wooed a blonde white girl in a crowded courtyard as we waited in the cold at 9:30 a.m. to be let into school. I was scared: This was 1970, and I wondered, did brotherman have a death wish? One white boy expressed his disapproval: He hawked and spat on the back of brotherman's Navy Pea coat. Brotherman was

not immediately aware of the staining, and I didn't go out of my way to inform him.

I experienced disapproval in the cafeteria. A bully similar to the kid in Rock's sitcom liked to hurl racial epithets at us, an integrated group of ninth graders who sat together. We were a handful of blacks and whites who came to New Utrecht from the same junior high.

We were friendly because of one common interest — sports. In the 1969-70 season, New Yorkers enjoyed a triple play: the Mets won the World Series, the Jets won the Super Bowl and the Knicks were NBA champs. My white companions were a composite of the boy who plays young Chris' buddy in the sitcom.

The bullies taunted us while we got minimum protection from a white gym teacher I'll call Mr. M. He was in a bind. Mr. M. couldn't let the bullies just come over and pound us. But he didn't want to be tagged a "nigger lover," the taunt reserved for white teachers who treated black kids respectfully. So Mr. M's compromise was to let the bullies assault us verbally instead of physically.

I do remember one physical assault. I was a sophomore and I was walking out of school at the end of the day. A white boy I didn't know walked up to me and asked, "Hey, you got some change?" That line was a distraction. Before I could answer, he punched me in the face. The punch occurred so fast I didn't feel any pain. I did however see circling stars, like a cartoon character. The guy was about to pull me up and slug me again, but he ran.

I ran for the elevated B train station a half block away. I learned after the fact that the white boy was burned on a reefer sale by a black guy, so for revenge, slugging any black guy would do.

Maybe that's why I laughed hysterically at the sitcom scene when young Chris faced his bully in the schoolyard and he figured if he threw the first punch, the fight would be quickly broken up by adults. Chris miscalculated. Adults looked the other way and he endured a beat down for 30 minutes. When he broke free and ran from the mob, young Chris barely squeezed onto the public bus, much to the driver's disappointment.

Embellished? Heck yeah, but with bittersweet authenticity. I remember those days. **End**

Deep Throat Revisited? Confidential Sources in the Post-Plame Era

Tuesday, Nov. 15, the Alumni Association of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism Annual Fall Meeting. Refreshments, 6:30 p.m., Program 7 p.m. Third Floor Lecture Hall, Graduate School of Journalism, 116th and Broadway, New York.

Moderator: **Tom Rosenstiel**, '80, founder and director, Project for Excellence in Journalism; vice chairman, Committee of Concerned Journalists. Panelists to Include: **Floyd Abrams**, professor of First Amendment Issues, Columbia Journalism School; partner, Cahill Gordon & Reindel; **Joel Gora**, professor and associate dean, Brooklyn Law School; author, "The Rights of Reporters"; **Dan Janison**, City Hall Bureau reporter, Newsday; **Mark Whitaker**, editor, Newsweek

RSVP by Nov. 8. Christine Veal, Graduate School of Journalism 212-854-3864.

Or reply online at www.jrn.columbia.edu/alumni/rsvp.asp

People

Address change: For the latest on technology, read PTech, a column by **Michelle Johnson**, '82. She had been writing the column for The Boston Globe since 1999, however the New York Times Co.-owned newspaper pulled the plug on the feature in late October. No problem, said Johnson; the column lives online at her Web log <http://personaltechgizmos.blogspot.com>



Dan Holly, '85, teaches two journalism classes at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh [photo]. He is also editor of the North Raleigh News, owned by the News & Observer [McClatchy]. ... **Jerome L. Reide**, '82, joined the State Bar of Michigan as director of the Justice Initiatives Division where he will oversee and direct goals in policy, pro bono, equal access, technology and fund-raising issues. ... **Vanessa Bush**, '97, was named executive editor of Essence magazine. Bush, who has worked at the magazine for the past five years, most recently served as its lifestyle director. ... **Juliette Fairley**, '91, performed in the off-Broadway play "Women in Comedy." Author of four books and a yoga enthusiast, Fairley is an actress and TV host and has been featured in two TV commercials, five independent films and two off-Broadway plays. ... **Jovita Moore**, '90, joined WSB-TV2 Action News in Atlanta. Moore will anchor the 5:30-6 p.m. portion of the newscast.

Fall Alumni Journal, Columbia Journalism School E-News contributed to this report.

Renew online? We accept PayPal, www.paypal.com. Our account is August Press.

NABJ news: Midwest gets representation

Leisa Richardson, an assistant metro editor at The Indianapolis Star, was named Region IV director, NABJ announced Oct. 3. She will represent Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Minnesota, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Richardson was to join the board of directors at the Oct. 14-16 meeting in Washington, D.C. President Bryan Monroe appointed Richardson to fill a vacancy left when no member sought the position during NABJ elections last August ["NABJ-30: More bodies, more bank, yet troubling signs demand attention," commentary, September BA Newsletter]. NABJ will head to Indianapolis in 2006 for the 31st Annual Convention and Career Fair, Aug. 16-20.



The NABJ Journal 30th Anniversary commemorative edition [Summer 2005] is available as a PDF file for association members. Visit www.nabj.org Mira Thomas Lowe, '88, was the 30th anniversary committee chairwoman. Wayne Dawkins, '80, compiled the six page "Moments in Time" of highs and lows for black journalists over three decades.

Jobline

The State in Columbia, S.C. is looking for an experienced visual journalist to direct visual editorial content. You'll need to be an experienced manager comfortable leading design, graphics & photography. You'll directly oversee the design and graphics departments. The director of photography will report to you. If you have some big ideas you'd still like to try, send a brief statement of your visual journalism philosophy, a resume and seven examples of work that shows what you can do to: Tonnya Kennedy Kohn, managing editor, The State, 1401 Shop Road, Columbia, SC 29202 . . . The Herald-Dispatch [Gannett] in Huntington, W.Va. has these openings: Business reporter. At least one year experience required. Apply to Managing Editor Jill Nevels-Haun at jinhaun@herald-dispatch.com or (304) 526-2779 or Executive Editor Ed Dawson at editor@herald-dispatch.com or (304) 526-2787. Metro editor: The Herald-Dispatch is seeking a newsroom leader with strong organizational and editing skills to direct a team of local news reporters and editors. Some newsroom leadership experience required. Contact Dawson or Nevels-Haun.

THANK YOU, new and renewing October subscribers.

Black

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J-alum produces int'l indie film



Suzanne Kay Bamford, '86, is producer/writer of "Cape of Good Hope," a movie about the new South Africa directed by her husband, Mark Bamford. According to the synopsis, "Cape of Good Hope" is in the tradition of multilayered films by Robert Altman and John Sayles. Multiple storylines revolve around a Cape Town animal rescue center.

Bamford's movie opened in New York, San Francisco and San Jose, Calif. last month. This month it comes to Berkeley, Calif., Houston and Dallas, Dec. 2; Atlanta, Santa Cruz, Calif., Austin, Texas, Dec. 9; Los Angeles, Pasadena and Irvine, Calif. Dec. 16. Visit www.capemovie.com.

Holiday shopping: Books by J-alumni

By KEITH RUSHING

In "Crowns," Craig Marberry, '85, wrote about what the church hat represents in the lives of many black women — spirituality, dignity and their relationship to God — something far more than style. Marberry



continues with another aspect of above-the-neck black culture in his new work "Cuttin' Up," published by Doubleday in May. In "Cuttin' Up," Marberry captures the culture of the barber shop, which, for black men, is a place like no other, where everything from politics, gossip, personal problems and frustrations, to the tragic and the comic are always on display. Marberry reproduces the lives and conversations of barbers and their patrons, male and female, as he travels from Detroit to Orlando, Brooklyn to Houston.

"Cuttin' Up," like *Crowns*, has inspired others to re-style Marberry's work for the theater. The onstage version of "Cuttin' Up," playing through Jan. 1 at Arena Stage's Kreeger Theater in Washington, D.C., focuses on the stories of three barbers of different generations in a fictional barbershop. The play, written and directed by Charles Randolph-Wright, opened up to rave reviews.

Sheila Stainback, a 2001 graduate of Columbia University J-School's mid-career Masters program, contributed a chapter to "A Love Like No Other," in which 20 adoptive parents share their child-rearing experiences. The book was published in November by Riverhead Press. An excerpt of Stainback's work appears in the December issue of Redbook magazine.

Continued on back page

Wanted: Articulate, independent views

Just before the 13th annual meeting of the Trotter Group, Newsday columnist Sheryl McCarthy let us know she would not be attending the Nov. 6-9 meeting in Nashville, Tenn. After 16 years of writing columns, she accepted a buyout from the Long Island newspaper.

Wayne Dawkins/COMMENTARY



Newsday announced that 49 newsroom employees took buyouts. The Tribune Co. newspaper is trying to recover from a circulation scandal: Executives inflated readership numbers. Misled advertisers demanded refunds. Newsday pushed out dozens of journalists to try and compensate for its cash-flow problem.

McCarthy, a Trotter regular, was missed at our gathering. So was Les Payne, who with DeWayne Wickham of USA Today and Derrick Jackson of the Boston Globe are the three leading founders of the black columnists society.

Payne, editor of Newsday's New York City edition, was on our schedule to make a presentation but he was understandably MIA: His staff was effectively eliminated because of the cost cutting, and according to Trotter and media columnist Richard Prince, Payne, was reassigned as an associate editor directing national and foreign coverage.

Although McCarthy and Payne missed the meeting, two dozen of us got together. Three new faces joined us this year: Kerra Bolton of the Ashville, N.C., Citizen-Times; Brian Lewis of the Springfield, Mo., News-Leader, and Barry Saunders of The News & Observer of Raleigh, N.C.

On Sunday evening Nov. 6 we toured the "Night Train to Nashville: Music City Rhythm & Blues 1945-1970" exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. We met Johnny Hebb, writer/performer of the 1960s hit "Sunny." Many of my colleagues were amused by film clips, one of Jimi Hendrix playing guitar behind three male

soul singers doing spits in skin-tight pants, or female go-go dancers who shimmied while dressed in polka dot pants, or mini skirts with white go-go boots. Those were the days.

THE NEXT MORNING was far more sober and reverent. Ninety-year-old John Hope Franklin



visited his alma mater, Fisk University, and he was also in town to promote his new autobiography, "Mirror to America." We ate breakfast with the leading American scholar who is author of 15 books, including the seminal "From Slavery to Freedom," which has sold 3.5 million copies since the initial publishing in 1947.

'Bush is not on the rating scale ... He's not among the presidents who have made a constructive contribution to the country.' — John Hope Franklin

Donna Britt of The Washington Post kissed Franklin after he signed her book. Rochelle Riley of the Detroit Free Press asked Franklin to forgive us for treating him like a rock star. Since Franklin had had contact with U.S. presidents going back to FDR in the 1930s, Derrick Jackson of the Globe asked the historian how he rated current and 43rd occupant George W. Bush.

"Bush is not on the rating scale," said Franklin. "I find it difficult to find his performance. ... He's not among the presidents who have made a constructive contribution to the country. I wish I could say the time would come when he will rise to the occasion, though I don't think he's capable of doing that."

"I'm afraid the country is so bogged down in corruption and in double talk and in intrigue and in conspiracy and in lack of regard for the intelligence of the American public that I don't know where we're going. I wish I did. It keeps me awake at nights. I struggle to find something to say that would be good and constructive. But it's not possible."

CONTINUED, next page

Franklin said Trotter and his Harvard classmate W.E.B. DuBois both were writers and editors with "articulate, independent views, views in which they reached their own conclusions. DuBois and Trotter had absolute independence."

Franklin urged the Trotters to continue that tradition.

He retold the story about Trotter's 45-minute argument with President Woodrow Wilson in 1914. "You can't do that," said the historian, pointing at many of us sitting around a horseshoe shaped board room table. "That may have been the one and only time anyone was thrown out of the White House."

"[However] if we can not stand up and talk on our own ground, we never will."

THIS YEAR'S ATTENDEES:

Betty Winston Baye [The Courier-Journal, Louisville]; **Kerra Bolton** [Asheville, N.C., Citizen-Times]; **Donna Britt** [Washington Post]; **Wayne Dawkins** [Newport News, Va.]; **Derrick Jackson** [Boston Globe]; **Gregory Kane** [Baltimore Sun]; **Jerry Large** [Seattle Times]; **Brian Lewis** [Springfield, Mo., News-Leader]; **Dwight Lewis** [Nashville Tennessean]; **Wil LaVeist** [Daily Press, Newport News, Va.]; **Errol Louis** [New York Daily News]; **Charlise Lyles** [Catalyst Cleveland]; **Askia Muhammad** [Final Call, Washington, D.C.]; **Steve Penn** [Kansas City Star]; **Richard Prince** [Journal-isms, Maynard IJE]; **Rochelle Riley** [Detroit Free Press]; **Gregory Sanford** [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel]; **Barry Sanders** [News & Observer, Raleigh, N.C.]; **Wendi Thomas** [Commercial Appeal, Memphis]; **Adrienne Washington** [Washington Times]; **Rod Watson** [Buffalo News]; **Tonyaa Weathersbee** [Florida Times-Union]; **DeWayne Wickham** [USA Today]

Founders in attendance: Six out of 18 [Baye, Britt, Dawkins, Jackson, Prince, Wickham].

The inaugural meeting was fall 1992 in Cambridge, Mass.

In memoriam: Norm Lockman, 1938-2005, Wilmington, Del. News Journal, Trotter founder.

People

Rosa Parks, 92, who died in late October, is often called the mother of the Civil Rights movement. Associated Press correspondent Erin Texeira, '95, wrote about Parks "sisters," Ella Baker, Septima Poinsette Clark, Fannie Lou Hamer and other significant women of the movement deserving of wider recognition. Read more at http://myhero.com/myhero/heroprint.asp?hero=Women_CivilRights_AP ... **E.R. Shipp**, '78, joined the Hofstra University faculty as an associate professor in the Department of Journalism, Media Studies and Public Relations. Shipp is a 1996 Pulitzer Prize winner for commentary. She also served as an ombudsman for The Washington Post. Hofstra is located in Long Island, N.Y. where Shipp resides. ... **Marquita Pool-Eckert**, '69, a senior producer at CBS "Sunday Morning" was the featured guest at a "Caldwell Cafe" newsmaker chat program at Hampton University Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications in mid-October. Earl Caldwell, journalism legend, and an instructor at the school, moderates the cafe. ...



Lena Williams, '73, retired from The New York Times Oct. 28 after three decades as a reporter. "I'm heading back to Washington, D.C.," Williams told media columnist Richard Prince on Nov. 3. "I'm going to chill out for at least a year and hope to teach journalism at my alma mater, Howard University." Williams is author of "It's the Little Things: The Everyday Interactions that Get Under the Skin of Blacks and Whites," 2000, Harcourt Inc.

"Living in Babylon: Poems and Performances," by Esther Iverem, '83, published in mid-November by Africa World Press, shows that there's no separation between the personal and the political. Sarah Browning, founder of DC Poets Against the War, who wrote a description of the book, said this about Iverem's work on Amazon.com: "The poems warn that yes, there are nooses everywhere, but they also remind us of our strength, exhort us to believe that we have the power of 'Antonio Maceo, mounted on his horse, sword in hand.' With their beauty, their humor, their brave solemnity, these poems are 'love reparations,' manifestoes for the new century."

Also consider: "Finding Martha's Vineyard: African Americans at Home on the Island," by Jill Nelson, '80 [Doubleday, May]; "Video Cowboys" by Yolanda Joe, '85 [Simon & Schuster, May], and "Playing My Mother's Blues," by Valerie Wilson Wesley, '82 [William Morrow, March].

Jobline

American Public Media's **Marketplace**, public radio's daily economics program, has openings for several positions including a reporter for its newly-established entrepreneurship beat and hosts for **Marketplace Morning Report**. It's seeking candidates with a bachelor's degree, a minimum of 5-7 years of experience in journalism, facility with deadlines and collaboration in a fast-paced team setting and plenty of good ideas for fresh approaches to business coverage. Creative, motivated broadcast and print journalists are encouraged to apply. Former **Marketplace** senior editor Cheryl Devall is conducting a nationwide search on behalf of the program. For more details, please contact her at cdevall@writinrhythm.net. American Public Media is an equal-opportunity employer.

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The Times Recorder of Zanesville, Ohio seeks three **general assignment reporters**. Zanesville is an hour east of Columbus and two hours west of Pittsburgh. We would be an excellent training ground for talented journalists who want some solid experience before venturing into a bigger newsroom. Applicants can learn more about the job at <http://tinyurl.com/9dgt2>. Contact: Len LaCara, managing editor, Zanesville Times Recorder and Coshocton Tribune 34 S. Fourth St., Zanesville, OH 43701. Or call 740-450-6751 lacara@nncogannett.com ... The San Diego Union-Tribune is seeking an experienced copy editor to join our news desk team. Candidates should have at least three years' experience at a daily newspaper. We are looking for creative headline writers with superior editing skills and a flair for the English language. A collaborative approach and the ability to work well under deadline pressure are a must. If interested, please send cover letter and resume to Lora Cicalo, news editor, The San Diego Union-Tribune, P.O. Box 120191, San Diego, CA 92112-0191 or email lora.cicalo@uniontrib.com.

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